### York County Elder Abuse Task Force

# Fraud Alert Bulletin

April 2017

# Greetings fellow York Countians,

This is a Fraud Alert issued by the York County Elder Abuse Task Force. Periodically, members of the York County District Attorney's office who prosecute these devastating financial crimes will offer warnings about the latest financial scams targeting seniors here in York County. seniors about Educating financial fraud is a top priority of the York County Elder Abuse Task Force. With that in mind, we want every senior in York County to remember the Recognize a potential scam; Refuse to make any hasty decisions; and Report suspicious activity to police. Stay safe and feel free to contact either **Chief Deputy** Prosecutor Dave Sunday or **Assistant District Attorney** Alison Glunt at the District Attorney's Office (717-771-9600) with any questions.

Dave Sunday
Chief Deputy Prosecutor



#### FRAUD ALERT! - "Can you hear me now?"

A recent trend in phone scams is the "Can you hear me now?" call. You will receive a call, likely from either a blocked number or a number you are unfamiliar with, and upon answering will immediately hear, "Can you hear me now?" Sometimes there will be additional statements made before the "Can you hear me now?" question; usually the additional statements include complaints about a malfunctioning headset. Although the person on the other end may sound real, automated calls are developing a more natural, conversational style to trick you. These calls are typically robocalls and are pre-recorded. The caller is looking for you to respond with "yes" so they can record it and use the recording later for fraudulent purchases.

## What should you do if you get one of these calls?

- DO NOT ANSWER THE QUESTION and hang up.
- Contact your phone provider. There may be services available to block unwanted calls.
- Add your number to the Do Not Call registry.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission.

#### **Additional Tips**

- Be on the lookout for other calls that have questions designed to solicit simple answers of "yes."
- If you get what you believe to be a scam call, don't press any numbers to speak to a live person. The FTC warns that responding in any way may actually lead to MORE robocalls.